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Administration Mute on Soviet SALT Violations

The 1980 Republican party platform deplores what are called "the attempts of the Carter Administration to cover up Soviet non-compliance with arms control agreements" and pledges to end this sweeping under the rug of Soviet violations of SALT and SALT II.

In his first news conference as President-elect, Ronald Reagan declared: "I ran on the platform. The people voted for me on the platform; I do believe in that platform, and I think it would be very cynical and callous of me now to turn away from it."

But, alas, to date it appears that the Reagan Administration is covering up the Carter cover-up on Soviet SALT and SALT II violations.

On May 6, at the regular State Department daily briefing, I asked: "In the opinion of the Reagan Administration, have the Soviets violated either the letter or the spirit of the SALT I and SALT II treaties?" On May 19, the following written response was given: "A comprehensive inter-agency review of this question is under way. We are examining a number of compliance concerns, but no final judgments have been reached."

Well now. Why *haven't* any final judgments been reached? According to reliable sources, the Soviets have clearly violated both SALT I and SALT II. Here's how:

By testing surface-to-air missiles in an anti-ballistic missile (ABM) mode;

By deploying ABM battle management radars;

By camouflaging ABMs;

By falsifying information on the deactivation of ABMs;

By creating a new AMB test range without prior notification;

By developing a rapidly deployable mobile ABM;

By deploying the SS-19 intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM);

By failing to deactivate old ICBMs on time, and falsifying official reports;

By keeping 18 SS-19 ICBMs at Tyuratam illegally operational;

By massive deliberate camouflage, concealment and deception regarding such things as encoding missile signals, ICBM testing and submarine production; and

By keeping over 1,300 old ICBMs stockpiled.

In February, *Newsweek* magazine reported: "The Soviets are frustrating U.S. surveillance efforts by coding the data that their new submarine-launched Typhoon missile sends back to earth during test shots. The coding—or—'encryption' could prevent the United States from determining whether the new missile carries more than the 14 warheads and decoys permitted by the SALT II agreement. American experts say there has been no treaty violation yet because early Typhoon tests have misfired soon after launch. If the same pattern of encryption is used in longer flights, however, it would violate SALT II, which bans coding that might prevent verification."

Also, earlier this year the highly authoritative *Aviation Week and Space Technology* magazine reported that President Reagan might seek a special session of a U.S.-Soviet commission to discuss at least 30 Soviet violations of SALT I. But in early May, the *Washington Star* carried a story saying that "a group of officials representing government agencies involved in SALT questions moved away from a finding that the Soviet Union has violated the 1972 SALT I agreement."

And in late April, one of the staunchest Reaganites at the State Department, David Sullivan, was fired from his post as counselor at the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency. Sullivan, who is one of the leading authorities in the country, is a former CIA analyst and an expert on Soviet SALT violations. He has written several articles and a book on the subject.

In January, President Reagan said that when dealing with the Soviets it should be remembered that "the only morality they recognize is what will further their cause, meaning they reserve

unto themselves the right to commit any crimes, to lie, to cheat, in order to attain a one-world Socialist or Communist state."

Indeed. And in the area of arms control agreements the Soviets have done all those things. If President Reagan is sincere about sticking to the 1980 GOP platform's promises, he will order the State Department to immediately end its cover-up of Soviet violations of SALT I, SALT II and a variety of other pacts we've signed with them. The evidence is there by the ton. It has only to be released.

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